

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of : August 16, 2004  
Bierbrauer, M. et al : IBM Corporation  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 15, 2004, the following remarks are respectfully submitted:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

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